

10-30-1896

## Letter from Louise Pierce, Wellesley, Massachusetts, to Mr. R.F. Pierce, Old Town, Maine, 1896 October 30

Louise Pierce

Wellesley College Archives

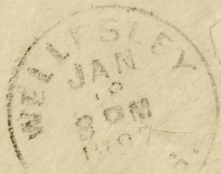
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### Recommended Citation

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Mr. R. F. Pierce,  
Old Town,  
Maine.

[Oct 30 1896.]

Wellesley Mass.

Sunday A.M.

Dear Mr. P.

Silvia Pease is blacking  
my boots preparatory to going to church.  
She's very nice. often blacks my  
boots. I don't know whether she  
likes it or not, <sup>but I do.</sup> ~~but~~ she doesn't seem  
to mind. I use mine blacking.  
Papa can do it when I get home.  
Shan't take my apparatus home,  
as I suppose he has some - though  
I didn't use to see much indica-  
tion of it before I left. I can  
give you pointers on it. One use  
cotton batting when blacking! Silvia  
does, and she gets a beautiful shine.

Last night was Halloween. Every  
body celebrated but me. Some of the  
girls were asked to the different  
houses. We were all asked to the Eliot



all went but Hattie Righter and I  
 While I'd gone now. In always  
 staying away from things I wish  
 I hadn't and going to those I  
 don't care two cents about. Lena  
 said they had an awfully time.  
 They had minstrelle and three  
 danced. Lena met a girl from  
 Belfast. who knows Agnes and  
 Sara Mason, Mrs. Sawtelle. In  
 going to call on her when I get  
 time. Yesterday before luncheon  
 I took a bath. After l. I washed.  
 having previously soaked the  
 things over night. My soap has  
 disappeared. guess I'll buy some  
 kerosene next week. While I had  
 a little sample box. My laundry  
 bill averages about twenty cents.  
 I do my stockings, hdkts. and  
 shirts that I wear for correctness.  
 To-morrow shall iron.

Tuesday night there was a torch  
light procession here and we  
lighted up. It was a very good  
process. Larger than I ever saw  
at home. It came from the sur-  
rounding towns. After it went by  
the house we chased it for a  
way. haven't had so much  
fun since I came. Wednesday  
we registered up to College. You  
pay a cent, they ask you the regu-  
lation questions, not forgetting  
the oath, make you read a piece  
of the Constitution, and then  
you can vote. I shall vote Tue-  
day, and help swell McKim's  
majority. I don't suppose we  
shall find out where we until  
Wed. morning at least. Wish  
I were going to be home, it is so



much more exciting. We'll have  
fun, though, Wed. night, that is if  
we have a chance. Mrs Yeater is  
the only Bryantite in the house.  
I guess my political theories were  
anything extra. I think I wrote  
you that they are handed back  
and kept. I guess we can get them  
again by and by, though. If we want  
them. I thought my strong  
posit was English, but I don't  
know about it now. Chuggs into  
structure a great deal here.

Had a quiz in German yesterday.  
It wasn't bad. I think I got  
most of it right. The only trouble  
is the spelling and the writing.  
She asks the questions in German  
and we have to write in German  
script. Like this. *Ich habe ein  
Haus.* in Eng. script is I do have  
a house. in Eng. I have a house.

You see it makes quite a bother to  
~~stop~~ and write with the German  
 letters. I can write pretty well, but  
 I can't read writing readily. We  
 have a perfectly fine teacher. He's  
 been studying abroad the last 2  
 yrs and has just been made  
 Associate Prof. in German.

Math. isn't quite as bad as it  
 was; sometimes I feel very well  
 about it. Of course, it is hard  
 but I guess I can learn it if I  
 study long enough. Miss Pendle-  
 ton is fine. I like her very much.  
 She still scares me, but then  
 I like her all the same. We got  
 our quiz papers back day before  
 yesterday. Mine wasn't perfect,  
 but I didn't expect it would  
 be. There were a good many  
 mistakes, but still I think it



was Jarr. Anyway it makes me  
feel better. And she didn't tell  
me & come & her, and it said  
that on a good many or at  
least quite a number. I was tid.  
I'm so thankful. I didn't. It  
was a pretty hard test. that  
is, it wasn't long, but she  
two pups. she gave, were among  
the hardest in the book. Next  
year I guess I'll have a pretty  
good time. I'm beginning to  
like it now.

I guess I told you we have din-  
ner at night and luncheon at  
noon. except on Sundays and  
Mondays. I don't think we get  
so much & eat that way. That  
is the luncheons are very good  
but sometimes dinner at night  
isn't just the same as is the  
dinner at noon. I don't have  
so many vegetables and things



Mrs. Douglass went home yesterday.  
 I'm awfully sorry you didn't  
 come up here from Portland.  
 I kind of thought perhaps you  
 would.

I saw by the last Enterprise  
 that they are putting fire  
 alarm boxes in. What did they  
 connect it with the Baptist bell.  
 do they pay them for its use?  
 I also was reading a little while  
 ago about a new kind of car they  
 were making for the B. & O. One  
 like the street cars. hope it will  
 be on by the time we are home.

I don't know whether I come  
 straight from Bangor on the  
 car or stop off at Exchange St.  
 and take the electric up to  
 High St. I shall be home in  
 the morning. There will prob-  
 ably be several girls coming the  
 same train. One of them who  
 lives in Calais has I go through

Old Town. and perhaps Mrs Macom-  
 ber of Augusta will come at the  
 same time.

Friday afternoon Miss Mac Com-  
 mon and I went into a sym-  
 phony concert. Guess I wrote I  
 was going. Lena was too, but she  
 didn't for she had to see Miss  
 Pennington. I shouldn't have  
 gone, only we shall hereafter have  
 gym. Friday afternoons and I  
 don't want to cut much, for if  
 you can't cut too much it dis-  
 qualifies you for the crew in the  
 spring and I do want to get on  
 that if possible. I haven't tried  
 for any of the other sports and  
 pastimes. I haven't any time to  
 "paw." But I believe that only  
 unconditioned students can get  
 in the crew, and I suppose I'll  
 get conditioned in something



or other. I was asked to join the  
Beethoven Society by a girl who  
sits next me in chapel. I guess  
there isn't a very full member-  
ship this year for Prof spoke  
about it in Chapel yesterday  
morning. I guess it isn't absolute-  
ly necessary to be able to read mu-  
sic very readily. I wish I could  
join, but don't believe I will.  
they only practice two periods  
a week though. But they have  
to sing at all the College Enter-  
tainments, and I don't like  
that very well. Haven't joined  
the Bore Swallows yet, and  
don't know as I shall. It's  
all right, you know, a good  
society and all that but I  
don't know as they meet in  
the winter for the term is cold

so I guess I'll wait till spring.  
 I started out & tell you about the  
 Concert. We left at 12.17 had & just  
 whooped down from College. got  
 to Music Hall at 1.15. There was a  
 small crowd, hundred or so there.  
 We went in on "rush" tickets which  
 admit to 2<sup>d</sup> balcony. The doors  
 open at 1.30 then every body pushes  
 along to the door. It is a very tight  
 crowd if it is small. it is about as  
 tight for 2 or 3 minutes as the  
 Chicago crowd was. You get through  
 the door then just run up &  
 flights of stairs as fast as you can  
 run. We were fortunate for we got  
 seats in the second row. It doesn't  
 make much difference where they  
 are. you can hear just as well.  
 Not many people were standing.  
 But some were. The concert was, course



fair. The orchestra is supposed to  
 more than 50 men. I don't know  
 how many, couldn't see, but esti-  
 mated 50 or 60. The soloist was  
 Campan<sup>na</sup>ari; he sang very well.  
 I wasn't especially taken with  
 him. I guess ~~there~~ some body though.  
 I am very strongly tempted to  
 go in again next Friday for  
 Melba is going to sing. Just think  
 of hearing Melba for a quarter.  
 Of course we should have to ~~sing~~  
 stand. It wouldn't be any use  
 to try rushing for seats with-  
 out getting out there at 12.30  
 and in order to do that I should  
 have to cut Mattie and I won't do  
 that. I think though it is  
 worth while standing to hear Melba.  
 I like to take things when they  
 are going especially people.

we cant depend on them. He  
might retire or die or something so  
for I get another chance & hear her  
Guess I shall go if we dont have a  
math quiz Sat. morning.

I had an awfully good time last  
Friday. Miss Mc Gannon is  
very nice. I like her immensely.  
I should think from what I've read  
of that - George's affair that - it is  
going to be pretty good. I should  
like to hear Bessie sing. you'll go  
won't you?

Yesterday was the hottest day  
I ever saw at this time of year. I  
wore a shirt waist to school and  
no jacket coming home, and I was  
just boiling hot when I got home.  
It isn't so pleasant today, but the  
last two days have been just as  
warm and nice.

Have + put on any winter things  
except a long sleeved shirt. shirt



probably was but, conversation be-  
fore Amos.

You said Matt was coming over  
when you wrote. wish I had seen her.  
Have you seen Louise?

Guess I've written enough so good by.  
Remember me to Maggie and the  
other folks. Lovingly; Lou.

I didn't get but 4 letters all this  
last week. Hope I'll do better next.  
Wont you send me my little picture,  
the larger head. There is only one left,  
or was when I came away. I'll  
take it back Amos, but I want to  
show it to my the girl, we must ex-  
change.